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To be continued every THURSDAY.

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THOUGH the demand for this paper has more than anſwered my expectations, yet the profits ariſing from it have not been ſo immenſe as to enable me at this preſent time to ſet up the one-horſe chair which I promiſed myſelf at firſt ſetting out. For which reaſon, and for certain private objections which I cannot help making to a poſt-chaiſe or a hired chariot, when I am enclined to make an excurſion into the country, I either travel on foot, or, if the diſtance or the weather ſhould make it neceſſary, I take my place in that ſociable and communicative vehicle, called a ſtage coach. Happy is the man, who without any laboured deſigns of his own, finds his very wants to be productive of his conveniences.

ces. This man am I; having met with certain characters and adventures upon theſe rambles, that have contributed more to the enriching my ſtock of hints towards carrying on this work, than would ever have preſented themſelves had I drove along the road admiring the ſplendor of my own equipage, or lolled at my eaſe in the hired one of another.

MANY of theſe characters and adventures had appeared before now in theſe eſſays, if the deſire of obliging my correſpondents, aſſiſted by a modeſty peculiar to myſelf, That of thinking the productions of others to be almoſt as valuable as my own, had not enclined me (if I may ſpeak in the language of traffic) to turn factor for my friends, and to trade by commiſſion rather than to do buſineſs entirely on my own account. And in carrying on this commerce, I have conſulted the ſatisfaction of my cuſtomers, as well as my own intereſt: for though I do not pretend to ſo much humility as abſolutely to allow that any other trader can ſend ſuch goods to market as my own, or, to drop the alluſion, that there is the man now living who can write ſo wittily, ſo wiſely, and ſo learnedly as myſelf; yet the productions of many will probably have more variety in them than thoſe of a ſingle perſon, even though that ſingle perſon ſhould be myſelf. But I have ſtill a ſtronger reaſon for giving place to correſpondents; it is, the ſtrong propenſity which I have always found in my nature to communicate happineſs. Everybody knows ———at leaſt every writer———with what infinite ſatisfaction a man ſees himſelf in print. For my own part I ſhall never forget the flutterings and heart-beatings I felt upon the honour that was done me many years ago by the author of the Gentleman's magazine, in publiſhing a ſong to Cælia, which was the firſt of my compoſitions. Indeed there was a ſmall inconvenience attending

tending the pleaſure at that particular time; for as my finances were a little low, I almoſt ruined myſelf by the many repeated half-dozens which I bought of that magazine to diſtribute among my friends for their wonder and admiration. And hence, if I was in haſte to ſet up an equipage, would ariſe another motive to the inſerting the letters of correſpondents; but as every pecuniary conſideration is of ſmall weight, when compared with the pleaſure of communicating happineſs, I have given it but little of my attention One thing I muſt requeſt of my readers before I have done entirely with this ſubject, which is, that if it ſhould ever enter into their heads that I have laid before them a dull paper, they will pleaſe to impute it to the abundance of my good-nature, and not to any lazineſs in my diſpoſition, or deficiency in my judgment.

But to return to my country excurſions. I was coming to town from one of them this week in the Windſor ſtage coach, which as we paſſed through Brentford, ſtopped to take up two of the fair ſex, inhabitants of that genteel place, one of them at a collar-maker's, and the other at a breeches-maker's. The collar-maker's lady, who was a perſon of very fine breeding, wiſhed the breeches-maker's lady joy of her coming abroad after her lying in, and excuſed herſelf by illneſs for not having waited upon her on the occaſion; to which the breeches-maker's lady anſwered, in the politeſt manner imaginable, "that ſhe ſhould have been "extremely glad to have ſeen her, but that ſhe ſent "cards to none of her acquaintance, as indeed there "was no occaſion; for that, excepting herſelf (meaning "the collar-maker's lady) ſhe had been viſited at her "fitting up by all the Quality of Brentford."

The Quality of Brentford fixed my attention to theſe ladies; and during ſo ſhort a journey as to Hyde-

park

park corner, where I made my compliments of departure, I acquired ſo much knowledge in the affairs of Child-birth, in Thruſhes, Red-gums, and the management of the month, that I ſhould hardly decline a debate upon thoſe ſubjects with the moſt experienced nurſe at the lying-in hoſpital in Brownlow-ſtreet.

As there are few circumſtances too trivial to furniſh uſeful hints to a conſiderate mind, at my return to my lodgings I could not help looking upon this boaſt of the breeches-maker's wife, concerning the number and grandeur of her viſitors, namely, that they were ALL the QUALITY of BRENTFORD, to be exactly of a piece with the vanity that poſſeſſes almoſt every individual of mankind.

To mention a ſtage coach once more, who is there that has travelled in one, but muſt have heard it obſerved by the moſt ordinary of the paſſengers that this was the firſt time in their lives that they had ever ſuffered themſelves to be crouded into ſo mean a carriage? For my own part, I have always remarked it, that within half a dozen miles of the end of our journey, if there has been a fine-ſpoken lady in the coach, though but a country ſhop-keeper's wife, who imagined herſelf a ſtranger to the company, ſhe has expreſſed great anger and aſtoniſhment at not ſeeing the chaiſe, the chariot, or the coach coming to meet her on the road. To what is this vanity owing, but to the deſire of being thought in her own perſon one of the QUALITY of BRENTFORD?

IF we look into the city, and obſerve the eating and drinking of almoſt every common tradeſman; the ſtrut of the huſband in his gown and hood upon a lord mayor's day; the extravagance of the wife in dreſs, furniture and ſervants; their parties to Vauxhall and Sadler's-wells; their

their viſits and entertainments; the queſtion will occur, whence are all theſe vanities, but to ſee and be ſeen by the QUALITY of BRENTFORD?

THE fine gentleman, whoſe lodgings no one is acquainted with; whoſe dinner is ſerved up under cover of a pewter plate from the cook's ſhop in Porridge Iſland; and whoſe annuity of a hundred pounds is made to ſupply a laced ſuit every year, and a chair every evening to a rout; returns to his bed-room on foot, and goes ſhivering and ſupperleſs to reſt, for the pleaſure of appearing among people of equal importance with the QUALITY of BRENTFORD.

THE confectioner's wife, who lights up her rooms with wax candles, and pays for them with the card-money; who borrows chairs, tables and ſervants of her neighbours; who ſweats under the fatigue of doing the honours of her houſe, and who is almoſt ſtifled to death by the mob ſhe has invited; has no other gratification from her folly, than the idle boaſt of having brought together to her rout ALL the QUALITY of BRENTFORD.

BUT to take characters in the groupe, why is every ordinary mechanic, every pettyfogging attorney, every clerk in an office, every painter, player, poet and muſician, or, in ſhort, why is almoſt every man one knows making a ſhow beyond his income, but from a deſire of being ranked among the QUALITY of BRENTFORD?

I SHALL conclude this paper, with a ſhort letter, which I received two days ago from a correſpondent, who, if I can form any judgment of his rank by his manner of writing, muſt be one of the QUALITY of BRENTFORD.

MR.